

**Amendments to the Claims:**

Claims 1-11 (Canceled).

Claim 12 (Currently amended): A method for operating an electronic parcel compartment system, whereby information of users of the electronic parcel compartment system is acquired, the method comprising:

assigning a user to a user group on the basis of the acquired information;

enabling a user to have access to a selection of several functions of the electronic parcel compartment system via controls of the electronic parcel compartment system depending on the user group to which the user belongs; and

effectuating control of ~~[[the ]]access possibilities in such a way that;~~ and activating, after assignment of a user to at least one specific user group, a function ~~can be activated~~ that causes an essentially simultaneous opening of several parcel compartments.

Claim 13 (Currently amended): An electronic parcel compartment system with a user interface, the user interface comprising a means for acquiring information from users of the electronic parcel compartment system, the electronic parcel compartment system comprising:

means for assigning the user to user groups on the basis of the acquired information;

a system control that allows a user to have access to a selection of several functions of the electronic parcel compartment system, depending on the user group to which the user belongs; and

means to effectuate ~~[[the ]]control of [[the ]]access possibilities in such a way that;~~ and

means for activating, after assignment of a user to at least one specific user group, a function ~~can be activated~~ that causes an essentially simultaneous opening of several parcel compartments.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The parcel compartment system of claim 13, wherein the means for assigning the users to user groups makes this assignment on the basis of information transmitted via a data line.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The parcel compartment system of claim 13, wherein the means for assigning users to user groups is connected to the user interface in such a way that the information acquired from the user interface is available to said means for the assignment of the users.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The parcel compartment system of claim 15, wherein the means for assigning the users to user groups makes this assignment on the basis of information transmitted via a data line.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): The parcel compartment system of claim 13, wherein the assignment to the user groups is performed by acquiring user identification information and by making a comparison of the user identification information to an entry in a database.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The parcel compartment system of claim 13, wherein different access authorizations to functions of the electronic parcel compartment system can be selected for different user groups.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The parcel compartment system of claim 13, wherein at least one of certain parcel compartments and groups of parcel compartments are accessible only to certain user groups.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The parcel compartment system of claim 18, wherein the assignment of the parcel compartments to the user groups can be changed.